

States economy, and H. Con. Res. 112—Expressing the sense of Congress opposing the President's proposed \$10 tax on every barrel of oil.

Yes on H.R. 3826—Mount Hood Cooper Spur Land Exchange Clarification Act.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VIRGINIA FOXX

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 9, 2016

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 271, I am not recorded.

Had I been present, I would have voted aye.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 9, 2016

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I inadvertently voted "nay" on Roll Call No. 279, on Representative POLIS' amendment to H.R. 4775 that would adopt the text of H.R. 1548, the BREATHE Act, which would amend the Clean Air Act to repeal the prohibitions against aggregating emissions from oil and gas sources. As an original cosponsor of H.R. 1548 and a strong supporter of policies to protect the public and our environment from the dangers of Hydraulic Fracturing, or fracking, I duly intended to vote "yea" on this amendment and appreciate this opportunity to note my support.

HONORING BREALAND PENDLETON

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 9, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable student, Ms. Brealand Pendleton.

Brealand Pendleton is the daughter of Mr. Christopher and Aubrey Pendleton of Terry, MS. She is one of four siblings: Chris, Braydon and Aubrey Pendleton. Currently, Brealand is a Senior of Terry High School where she will be graduating 6th out of a class of 320.

Brealand Pendleton is a very outgoing young lady that has served in several capacities in her school; showing great leadership skills and the qualities of a great team member. Brealand has been a member of the Band, Flag Team (Senior Captain), Tennis Team (Senior Captain), Beta Club (Senior Secretary), National Honor Society (Junior Treasury, Senior Vice-President), Interact Club (Senior Secretary) and the National Society of High School Scholars. Brealand has over 40 hours of community service which varies from local school participation, helping at the Food Network, serving at Stewpot, working with the school blood drive, contributor to the Angel Tree and other various community projects. Brealand will further her education at Xavier University of Louisiana, where she will major

in Biochemistry. Brealand is a shining example for Terry High School and her community as she works to make it a better place.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing a remarkable student, leader and community volunteer, Ms. Brealand Pendleton, for her hard work and dedication at Terry High School and throughout the communities of Mississippi.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE HEROISM OF CPL. PHILIP E. LOUR

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 9, 2016

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the incredible heroism of one of my constituents, Cpl. Philip E. Lour, a veteran of World War II, a leader, and an American patriot. Mr. Lour first began serving our nation immediately after graduating from high school at the age of 17. He enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps, in 1942, where he quickly developed an interest in communications, and eventually an expertise in Morse code. However, life had different plans for him.

After he was accepted into the Army Specialized Training Program, Mr. Lour soon found himself heading to the front lines due to the program being shut down. Mr. Lour fought in one of the war's most infamous battles, the Battle of the Bulge, where he survived the surprise Nazi assault that incurred the highest casualties for any operation in World War II in Europe. In January, 1946, Mr. Lour retired from the Army as a hero and patriot with the thanks of a grateful nation.

Mr. Lour's service to our nation did not end upon returning home. After graduating from Yale University with a degree in engineering, achieved through the GI Bill, he went on to work for the National Advisory Committee of Aeronautics (NACA). His work at NACA continued for eight years before he transitioned to operational analysis at Langley Air Force Base in Newport News, Virginia. He eventually retired as Deputy Director for the Concepts Analysis Agency in the Department of the Army.

Mr. Lour's long career of service to our nation speaks volumes of his character. He exemplifies hard work, leadership, bravery, and ambition in all aspects of his life, from his education to his service abroad. His dedication to the United States serves as a model for all Americans.

I am honored to recognize Mr. Lour today for his selfless contributions to our great nation. Whether it has been fighting on the front lines in WWII, or by making his neighborhood more beautiful with his extraordinary azalea garden, it is clear that Mr. Philip E. Lour has dedicated his life to improving the lives of those around him. He is respected and loved by many.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in saluting Philip E. Lour for his lifetime of service to the United States of America. I wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

IN MEMORIAM OF MICHAEL RATNER

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 9, 2016

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, with my colleague Congresswoman BARBARA LEE, to pay tribute to Attorney Michael Ratner, a fearless champion for justice and peace, who passed away on Wednesday, May 11, 2016 at the age of 72.

For nearly half a century, the talented and tenacious Michael Ratner brought cases with the Center for Constitutional Rights in U.S. courts related to war, torture, and other human rights violations. Throughout his decades of legal service, he was and remains a giant in the field on Constitutional law and the law of war.

He was born in Cleveland on June 13, 1943. His father, Harry, was a Jewish immigrant from Russia, and his mother, the former Anne Spott, helped resettle refugees after World War II, during which numerous family members of the couple were killed. After graduating in 1966 from Brandeis University, Michael Ratner earned his juris doctorate from Columbia Law School. He took a year off of law school to work for the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund on a Baltimore school desegregation case. He then clerked in Manhattan for Judge Constance Baker Motley, the first African American woman to serve on the federal bench.

In 1971, Ratner joined the Center for Constitutional Rights, a nonprofit organization headquartered in Manhattan. From 1984 to 1990, he served as the Center's legal director and became the Center's president in 2002 serving until 2014. He was also president of the National Lawyers Guild and of the European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights.

Ratner brought cases for war crimes and other human rights violations all over the world. Seeking to hold Bush administration officials accountable for torture, he filed cases under the Universal Jurisdiction principle in international courts, including in Germany, Spain, Canada, Switzerland, and France.

Ratner also oversaw litigation that successfully challenged New York City's stop-and-frisk policing tactic.

Under his leadership, the Center for Constitutional Rights was the first human rights organization to stand up for the human rights of Guantanamo detainees. Ratner was a founding member of the Guantanamo Bay Bar Association which grew to include more than 500 attorneys. This Association provided pro bono representation to prisoners at Guantanamo—one of the largest mass defense efforts in U.S. history. Michael acted as counsel in the landmark case *Rasul v. Bush*, which was the first successful Guantanamo case in the United States Supreme Court.

He is survived by his wife, Karen Ranucci, a video producer; his children, Jake and Ana; his sister Ellen and his brother Bruce.

Mr. Speaker, we ask that all our colleagues join us in honoring the life and work of Attorney Michael Ratner. He will truly be missed, but he will live on through the work of the countless social justice lawyers and activists he inspired.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 9, 2016

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$19,228,398,127,636.98. We've added \$8,601,521,078,723.90 to our debt in 6 years. This is over \$8.6 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

HONORING LOUISE SMITH

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 9, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a resourceful and ambitious mother, Mrs. Louise Smith. Mrs. Smith has shown what can be done through hard work, dedication and a desire to live a productive life.

Louise Smith was born on February 21, 1925 in Laurel, Mississippi.

Mrs. Smith married Samuel Smith on March 10, 1946 and together they had 11 children, 5 boys and 6 girls. They moved to Yazoo City, Mississippi in the 1950s. When the youngest child was enrolled in kindergarten, Mrs. Smith enrolled in beauty school and later received her license to become a hairstylist. She and her good friend, Dorothy Casey, co-owned a beauty salon in downtown Yazoo City which opened in early 1970s and remained open for over 30 years. When you stopped by to get your hair done, you not only received a great hair styling, but you also got many words of wisdom with a little gospel to lift up your spirits until the next time you came.

Mrs. Smith was once a member of Chapel Hill Baptist Church on Brickyard Hill in Yazoo City with her husband and children. There she and several other women met and formed a gospel group known as the Gospel Carolettes. Her husband sang with them as well. The Gospel Carolettes not only sang in church but at various Christian events spreading the news of the gospel. They also sang on the radio station WAZF each Sunday morning.

Mrs. Smith left Chapel Hill Baptist Church with her husband and children to become a member of New Zion Baptist Church where her son, Rev. Willie E. Smith, is the pastor. There she not only served as a Mother of the church, but also works with the Mission women. Mother Smith taught Sunday School and sang in the choir at New Zion.

Mrs. Smith has been a mother and/or grandmother figure to many in the church and in her neighborhood; always welcoming others into her home, which has always displayed an array of beautiful flowers in the yard and many green plants indoors for comfort, decoration and fresh air. Louise enjoys gardening and preparing dinner with vegetables from her garden on Sundays for her children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and any other visitors from the community.

Mrs. Smith has pushed to be a role model not only for her children and grandchildren, but to all in her community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Louise Smith for her dedication for change and serving her community.

HONORING PATRICIA DERIAN,
CHAMPION OF HUMAN RIGHTS**HON. DAVID E. PRICE**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 9, 2016

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember Patricia Derian, former State Department human rights chief, who, as the Washington Post reported, "helped save thousands of lives by giving humanitarian concerns greater weight in U.S. foreign policy." Patt, who grew up in Virginia and first gained a national reputation as a fighter for civil rights in Mississippi, died on May 20 at the home she and her husband, Hodding Carter III, shared in Chapel Hill, NC.

Patt graduated from the University of Virginia nursing school in 1952 and moved with her then-husband to Jackson, Mississippi. There she volunteered for Head Start, fought to integrate public schools, and participated in the 1968 challenge to the state's all-white Democratic National Convention delegation. She also served as president of the Southern Regional Council and on the executive committee of the American Civil Liberties Union.

In 1976, Patt took a leadership role in Jimmy Carter's presidential campaign. President Carter appointed her State Department coordinator for human rights and humanitarian affairs, a position Congress upgraded to Assistant Secretary. "If you want a magnolia to decorate foreign policy," she told future Secretary of State Warren Christopher, "I'm the wrong person. I expect to get things done."

Patt Derian proved as good as her word, ruffling numerous feathers along the way. She persuaded the President to exert influence over international lending institutions by opposing loans to Argentina, Ethiopia, Laos, Uruguay, and other human rights violators. She helped engineer the release of thousands of political prisoners in Indonesia, Bangladesh and Pakistan. Her reports to Congress shed light on previously ignored subjects such as labor practices, women's rights, and female genital mutilation. Jacobo Timerman, an Argentine journalist imprisoned and tortured over many years, credited Ms. Derian with helping engineer his release and saving "thousands and thousands of lives all over the world."

In 1978, Patt married Hodding Carter, a well-known Mississippi journalist who was then Assistant Secretary of State for Public Affairs. They relocated to Chapel Hill in 2005, where my wife Lisa and I came to treasure their friendship and their continued political and civic leadership, locally and nationally. Hodding was Patt's loving caretaker in her years of declining health and continues in multiple teaching and other leadership roles at the University of North Carolina.

Because of Patt Derian's "determination and effective advocacy," President Carter said upon her death, "countless human rights and democracy activists survived that period, going on to plant the seeds of freedom in Latin

America, Asia, and beyond." She was a great humanitarian who was not afraid to challenge the constraints generally placed on diplomacy and foreign policy. As a result, we now have a broader, morally-grounded view of our country's interests and of what we stand for in the world. That is a legacy of major importance: may we rededicate ourselves to it as we remember Patt Derian with gratitude and affection.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VIRGINIA FOXX

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 9, 2016

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 270, I am not recorded.

Had I been present, I would have voted aye.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. KAREN
RUE'S RETIREMENT**HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 9, 2016

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Karen Rue, Superintendent of Schools at Northwest ISD. Dr. Rue is retiring from this leadership position after over ten years of exemplary public service to its students, faculty and staff.

During her term as superintendent, Dr. Rue skillfully met the challenges of a rapidly growing school district. Dr. Rue guided NISD's transformation from an educational entity serving 8,700 students in a largely rural area to a more suburban district with an expanded enrollment of more than 21,000. She successfully shepherded the passage of three bond elections, with the overwhelming support of the community, to meet this dynamic growth. During this period, academic performance was increased to ensure that graduates would be equipped for success in higher education and prepared to compete in a global workforce. During Dr. Rue's tenure, the district saw the opening of two new high schools, Byron Nelson, and V.R. Eaton. Additionally, she was instrumental in the implementation of community-based accountability, the expansion of specialized NISD academies and the development of the Outdoor Learning Center.

Dr. Rue has been nationally recognized as a leading proponent of the importance of a digital learning environment to equip all students to be "future ready." She was selected to participate in the Connected Superintendents Summit at the White House, was named one of the nation's Top 50 Innovators in Education by the Center for Digital Education and was chosen as a finalist in the eSchool News Tech-Savvy Superintendent Awards program. In addition, she was elected by her peers to serve as president of the Texas Association of School Administrators and was named Region XI Superintendent of the Year. Dr. Rue is also a dedicated community leader, having served as President of the Northwest Communities Partnership and as a director of the 35W Coalition.

Cumulatively, Dr. Rue has dedicated 37 years to improving the quality of American